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Constituencies and the conduct of elections to both the Union House of the People and the Madras Legislative Assembly when those elections are held simultaneously.''

11-30 a.m. An hon. MEMBER:—" Are the Government aware that so many of the Congress M.L.As. spent more money during the election than was authorized by the Government?"

Mr. SPEAKER:—" It does not arise out of the main question."

Sri A. GOVINDASWAMI NAYAGAR:—" May I know, Sir, the amount spent for making ballot boxes and the reasons for supplying steel boxes to some places and wooden boxes to some other places in the South Arcot district?"

* The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" Within the limited time available, only a limited number of steel boxes could be obtained. As a matter of fact we obtained as many as 3,07,000 Allwyn steel boxes and we loaned from the Hyderabad Government about 22,000 steel ballot boxes. But still we required more ballot boxes and, therefore, about 80,000 wooden ballot boxes were used in all the districts."

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR THE YEAR 1952-53—*cont.*

DEMAND XV—EDUCATION.

* The Hon. Dr. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'*That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 11,95,02,100 *under Demand XV—Education.*'

In presenting this Demand to this Honourable House, I beg leave to briefly refer to the background of this Demand, especially from the financial point of view.

" Sir, the expenditure on Education in what are called the Part A States in the Indian Union has recorded an increase of more than one hundred per cent during the last five years. Our State stands among the foremost in India and in our own State, the expenditure on Education has increased, since 1946, from about 460 lakhs of rupees to the present level of nearly twelve crores of rupees. In 1938–39 the expenditure was 262 lakhs. This increase in expenditure has been generally progressive and continuous in the last decade. We have now come to a stage when we find it extremely difficult to maintain our present scale of expenditure on Education. In spite of limitations imposed, the current Demand on Education records an increase of more than one crore of rupees over the Revised Estimate for 1951–52. Of this increased educational demand, as already stated in the speech

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of the Finance Minister, the provision made in the Budget for a sum of fifty lakhs of rupees as additional educational grant to cover the loss due to the fee concessions granted to the children of the Non-Gazetted Officers and teachers forms an important part.

" Sir, I do not propose to make a very lengthy statement because I am anxious to hear the views of hon. Members on the educational policy of the Government. There are many cut motions given notice of and they are a record. I would, however, say something about Primary Education and the rest before I conclude. The expenditure proposed on Primary Education is to the tune of 716 lakhs of rupees. This is nearly sixty per cent of the total budgeted amount. I wish to draw the attention of hon. Members to the progress that has been made in the State in regard to Primary Education. The number of elementary schools has risen from 36,000 in 1947 to 38,000 now. There is also a considerable increase in the number of students studying in the primary schools. There has been a phenomenal increase in the number of schools for secondary education. The number has nearly doubled. In 1949, there were 899 schools and in 1952, the number is 1,600. The number of persons that have appeared for the S.S.L.C. examination has also increased from 51,000 to 80,000. This gives a general idea of the rate of progress of Secondary and Primary Education and the increase in the provision for these two items. These facts are an indication of the general policy of the Government towards Primary and Secondary Education in our State.

" In requesting the House to approve the Education Demand, I would particularly like to invite the attention of hon. Members to the new schemes provided for under this head. These include four lakhs as building grant to Dr. Alagappa Chettiar's College Endowment Trust for the opening of an Engineering College at Karaikudi, two lakhs of rupees as building and equipment grants to the P.S.G. & Sons' Charities College of Technology, Coimbatore, nearly six lakhs of rupees as building and equipment grants to non-Government Arts Colleges, two and a half lakhs for grants to private managements and local bodies for the construction of elementary school buildings, nearly one lakh of rupees to the Annamalai University for the opening of a Geological Department and for the starting of a Biological Station, nearly one lakh of rupees to the Andhra University as grant for introducing a course in Electro-Chemical Technology and a grant of Rs. 30,000 to the Madras University for the Textile Technology block and a grant of 6 lakhs in connection with the Silver Jubilee of the Andhra University for starting an Applied Physics Department. Provision has also been made for raising the Government Arts College for Women, Guntur, to the first grade and for opening new courses in the Government Arts Colleges at Srikakulam, Kumbakonam, Madras, Rajahmundry and Pudukottai and in the Government College of Technology, Coimbatore, and for the opening of a Government school for the deaf and dumb at Hindupur.

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" With these few remarks, I present the Demand and I shall reserve my further remarks to the end of the debate when I shall make them in a comprehensive way."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Motion moved—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,95,02,100 under Demand XV—Education.''

III.—PETITIONS TO THE ASSEMBLY.

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to your notice that quite a number of students want to present two petitions to the Assembly now."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I would like to read out, for the information of hon. Members, the relevant rule for the presentation of petitions to the Legislative Assembly. Rules 142 to 145 cover this—

'142. Petitions to the Assembly must :—

(a) relate to some matter actually under the consideration of the Assembly ;

(b) be addressed to the members of the Assembly ;

(c) be dated and signed by the petitioner or petitioners ;

(d) be in respectful and temperate language and must not

(e) propose expenditure of public moneys or the imposition of any charge on public revenues.

143. No petition addressed to the Assembly shall be presented except by a member of the Assembly.

144. Every member offering to present a petition to the Assembly shall confine himself to a statement of the parties from whom it comes, of the number of signatures attached to it and of the material allegations contained in it and to the reading of the prayer of the petition.

145. If a petition is in conformity with rule 142, the Secretary shall, if so required by the Speaker, read it to the Assembly or shall make an abstract of it and read the abstract to the Assembly. The Speaker shall not allow any debate or any member to speak upon or in relation to such petitions.' "

11-40 a.m. * SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" There are two petitions, Sir, which I am presenting. One is on behalf of the Andhra students. It is signed by 37,957 students from 153 institutions of all the Andhra districts. The second petition is signed by 1,700 students. This is a memorandum from the Madras students. Without knowing the rules they have included one or two items which involve expenditure. I request you, Sir, to treat them as deleted."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member may hand them over to the Secretary. He will examine whether the petitions are in conformity with the rules. After he has examined and found them to be in conformity with the rules, I shall ask him to read out the petitions to the Assembly, probably to-morrow."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" He may read them at 1 o'clock if it is possible."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Let me first of all ask the Secretary to examine whether the petitions are in conformity with the rules, whether the signatures . . ."